

**4/5 Year Old Division - Regular Season Rules**

**Game Play**

1. 5 innings or 1 hour time limit, which ever comes first. Time starts with the first pitch.
2. 2.5 innings is a legal game if the team that is behind can't catch up or weather is a factor.
3. If the two teams are tied after the 1 hour time limit, the game ends in a tie.
4. Batter gets 3 coach-pitched balls, 2 swings off the tee, or 5 strikes. On the second swing off the tee, batter is out if the ball is not put into fair play (ex. foul ball or swing and miss = batter is out).
5. Batter may only advance one additional base if the ball is hit in the infield (inside the baselines). There is no baserunning limit when the ball is hit past the bases and/or into the outfield.
	* Ex. Ball is hit in the infield, throw is made to 1B, first baseman misses: batter may not advance past second base; if a runner is on first, that runner must stop at 3B.
6. 7 players = automatic forfeit. 8 players = 1 automatic out every 9 batters. Late players go to the bottom of the order.
7. Pickup players are allowed to get a team up to 9 players. Pickup players must play outfield and bat at the bottom of the lineup. The opposing team’s head coach must approve the pickup players.
8. Maximum of 5 runs allowed per inning. If a team is mathematically eliminated, the winner will be delared and the game is offically over. It is up to both coaches to decide whether or not to keep playing if time has not elapsed.
9. Pitcher must have at least one foot in the pitcher’s circle prior to the pitch being thrown.
10. Pitcher in or near the pitcher’s circle has to make a throw to first base to get the runner out. Pitcher cannot run the player down for an out unless the batted ball pulls the pitcher in the direction of the runner (umpires judgment call).
11. 6 players make up your infield, including your catcher. Outfielders must be in the grass. All kids play in the field and bat in the lineup.
12. 2 coaches are permitted in the outfield grass, behind the players on defense.

**Adminstrative**

1. Pitcher must wear face gear. Catcher must wear a chest protector and helmet with facemask. Head coach is required to provide one at each game.
2. Each team is required to keep a scorebook (provided by the league).
3. Home team keeps the **official** scorebook in the box. Visitor keeps the clock. Coin-flip for home team.
4. Head coach is responsible for all assistant coaches and parent's conduct.
5. Any coach ejected from the game will be required to sit out the remainder of the game, as well as the next two games.
6. All coaches must perform an annual background check. Link is found on the OYA website.
7. Umpires have the all the authority, give them respect!
8. For all other rules, the Dizzy Dean rulebook will apply.

**This is a kid's game. Let's make it a fun learning experience.**